

**Amendments to the Abstract of the Disclosure**

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure at page 18 as follows:

This invention relates to a method of treating a patient suffering from ionizing radiation exposure, or of prophylactically treating a patient about to undergo ionizing radiation therapy. The method includes administering to a patient in need of treatment an effective amount of a thiol or reducible disulfide compound according to the formula set forth in the specification.